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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/663,918	09/16/2003	Richard A. Wilsak	37,512	2288

7590 07/17/2007  
BP America Inc.  
Docket Clerk, BP Legal, M.C. 5East  
4101 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

EXAMINER
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POPOVICS, ROBERT J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1724

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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07/17/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
10663918	9/16/03	WILSAK ET AL.	37,512

EXAMINER

Robert J. Popovics

ART UNIT

PAPER

1724

20070714

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

## Notice of Non-Responsive Amendment

The reply filed on **April 17, 2007** is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): **SEE ATTACHMENT**. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Robert James Popovics  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1724

## Attachment

Applicants have asserted:

Contrary to the action's conclusion, the Hensen patent's disclosure of "slurry filter units," does not anticipate independent claim 40 or any claim dependent therefrom. Independent claim 40 recites **"directing a slurry feed into the hollow cylinder."** In contrast to that recitation, the Hensen patent clearly discloses a filtration process that passes a liquid-crystal slurry through one or more porous metal tubes 164. Liquid present in the slurry passes from the tubes 164 through the tubes' porous holes and into the tank 166-the slurry does not pass into the tank 166. **The Hensen patent clearly does not disclose or otherwise teach the skilled artisan to pass the slurry into the tank 166 in which the tubes 164 are disposed.**

This is not understood. Surely, applicants will agree: That the tank 166 of Hansen is hollow. And that the tubes 164 of Hansen are within the hollow tank 166 of Hansen. And that the slurry enters into the hollow tubes which are within the hollow tank. Thus, the slurry is in the hollow tank (i.e., "cylinder"). By analogy, a gallon of milk in a refrigerator is also in the house, assuming of course that the refrigerator is also in the house.

Applicants are requested to clarify this argument.